

Transcript of shorthand notes taken by Det. Sgt. Battye, Special Branch, of parts of a speech made by Roy SAWH at a meeting held under the auspices of the Universal Coloured Peoples Association at Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park, W.1, on 13th. August, 1967.

Let me salute you by saying Black power...it is a new idea we have been waiting a long time for. In the same way that the Viet Cong in Vietnam have got their idea then I think black power is the answer to the black people's problem throughout the world. There are many white people who are terribly worried about what black power means, but for those of you who have not the slightest idea let me tell you what it means. It means the destruction of the white man's society... What do we mean by violence... When the white man talks of violence he means the killing of innocent people in England and not Hong Kong. When we talk about violence we are talking about fighting the enemy with all the means available in trying to get the white man off the black man's back... Michael "X"... gave a beautiful analogy of what the whole structure of the white man's society is. This is what he says: 'England is like an octopus with tentacles stretching all over the world...' Everywhere wants to get rid of the octopus...our brothers in Africa...cutting a little peice off. This does not get rid of it. The only way is to cut the head off. Since the head is in England and we are in England and we acted together and destroy that head, we can free our brothers...Black power must enter a new phase and some of you who have seen what has happened to Michael "X" when he was arrested, by now must know many speakers, including myself, are apt to be very soon getting a visit from the police telling us that we have contravened section 1(b) of the Race Relations Act, an act that was made by white people without asking black people. This is very, very important, because how can a white man make a law for black people without asking black people what do we think about the law. We say, and I am saying this in all sincerity - Black people must start rejecting the white man's load. Black people must start rejecting

(SAWH continued)

everything that the white man has made...very soon a lot of black people will be arrested because of this so-called Race Relation Act and the funny part of it all is that this act was introduced to protect black men... Let us talk about black power, I know nothing else... If we are going to get somewhere, then let us decide to destroy England. We can destroy England, and we do you a favour. (Produces money) ...This money is your money. Very good business to be in, to ponce. I am doing very well on it. Poncing off white women is the only profession you don't need capital for. Everything you make is profit... We come here to sell them to you. We are going to sell your women to you and take your money and put it in our pockets... (In answer to question) When we were raping nuns in the Congo, English women were queuing up at London Airport to come out. Do you know what killed Churchill. It was a black man. He was sitting reading the newspaper and saw that Sarah Churchill had married a black man. He had a heart attack... Let us talk about black power... If a black man goes for a room and the white man says 'sorry, no coloureds', burn his house down. If you go for a job and the white man says 'we are not employing black men in the factory', burn it down. I will tell you why. All the factories in England were built by black people's blood. Our countries were raped and every black man psychologically raped. We have nothing to lose...everything to gain because when we destroy this country Africa, Asia...shall be free from the white man's domination...You black people who believe because you have got a job and flat...you think you are better off than your brothers... we are going to burn you too. Let me show you what burning can achieve for us. Any black man can come to me and ask me for three pence and I will give it to you. All you must promise me is when I give you three pence I want you to pass by a tobacconist and buy a box of foreign matches...Buy that

(SAWH continued)

box of matches and keep it. There are forty sticks inside and if you want to use all forty you will get three pence worth of pleasure watching those little sticks doing millions of pounds worth of damages... When you see fire going up anywhere, all you black people must do is get into pocket, take out your box of matches and light everyone and leave it and run. If England's jeopardised economically, then South Africa will have to go because it is England and America which are keeping it going. When they are going we are going to burn. When they in Detroit say burn, we say burn, baby, baby, burn... The white man will expect you to come with a gun, but he is waiting with two guns. That is not the way. Let us use a box of matches. It can do so much harm that people in the West Indies and all over the world will be very proud. Let us sacrifice our lives... We are in the bowels of the enemy, let us destroy the white man. You are going to be worried in the same way as my brothers in South Africa are worried. We are going to rape you psychologically as you raped us. I am not a Christian, I am Muslim. I believe in an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. Let us get rid of this octopus now and for ever. Some of us will be arrested very soon. All we want you to do is when they put us inside you know what to do. If you don't do it, when we come out we are going to do you... If black people were united in England, when Michael "X" was arrested Ladbroke Grove should have been on fire... The Chinese are not your enemies my Indian brothers. The white man is your enemy. People like Mrs Ghandi should be killed... We are a million black men in this country and the only black revolutionaries who are going to help our black brothers in the world. Our brothers in the West Indies... still believe in the land of Hope-and-Glory. It is our duty to write and tell them what is happening to us in England. I appeal to you and beseech you to get out of your homes and do something. If you don't know what to do, come and ask us and we'll tell you.

(SAWH continued)

There are a lot of white people here and we do not want them to know what hit them... White liberals tell me not to preach violence and wait...When you ask a bunch of mercenaries to kill Congolese for copper, is not that violence. You bunch of white bastards...What are we waiting for...He has been in Africa hundreds of years and the Africans are not educated and he says that is being uncivilised. You bunch of white swines...

(Referring to a Jew in the audience, apparently) What does Nasser say. He was going to push you in the river. The Jews don't do that, they are nice people. Who are preaching violence? Moyshe Dayan didn't use violence, he just used bombs. May be the doctor will know what to do with him, but Hitler did not know what to do with you... (To another question) I haven't gone beyond the place where I burn the city down. What happened after the second world war...that is what we are going to do... When we burn you down we are going to be better off...You look at my mouth and think it is an arse. When you see a real arse you will say home sweet home...It is time for consolidation... You and I are from Guyana. What we have to do is go back there and kill every white man. When we start killing you in the West Indies you haven't anywhere to go....I know your society and it is rotten. I know white men going down Ladbroke Grove for prostitutes to have a kinky scene. (Addressing an Irishman in audience) You Irish are the scum of the earth... Ninety nine per cent of prostitutes in England are of Irish descent. To the white man a woman is like a record, when you have finished one side you turn her over and start on the other...When I am arrested under the Race Relations Act...one out of two things can happen.. You can either send me to two years, because I am not paying a fine... ..if the British Government decided to deport me because.... I am stateless, so I don't know which country they are going to send me to...If the case comes up we shall...not plead at all because we did not make the laws...We have made mistakes in the past...but now the black and white could live side by side.

(SAWH continued)

but I don't believe it now. I hope you who take over won't make that mistake. We have tried and talked and protested and had demonstrations and still we find that black people are being psychologically raped day by day and minute by minute...coloured people...want to have the same rights as the white man and if he is going to stop us we are going to say what our brothers are saying in the United States - move over, if you don't move over we are going to move you over. We believe when the time comes we can get rid of this octopus...


G. Battye
Sergeant.